

SENATE BILL 2065
By Beavers

AN ACT to designate the Exit 226 interchange on Interstate Highway 40 in Wilson County as the "Sergeant Jerry Mundy and Deputy John Musice Memorial Interchange".

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has named certain highways and bridges in honor of those outstanding citizens who during their lifetimes distinguished themselves as invaluable assets to their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the late Sergeant Jerry Mundy of the Mount Juliet Police Department and the late Deputy John Musice of the Wilson County Sheriff's Department were most assuredly outstanding public servants, as they gave their lives while protecting their community from those who sought to do it harm; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell Wilson County on the fateful day of July 9, 2003, when Sergeant Mundy and Deputy Musice were killed while attempting to stop and apprehend the driver of a stolen car on Interstate Highway 40 at Exit 226; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Juliet had never before lost a law enforcement officer in the line of duty, while Wilson County had lost several brave officers; sadly, citizens of both city and county are now feeling the deep pain produced by this terrible and wasteful loss of two of our best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Mundy dedicated fourteen years of his life to the Mount Juliet Police Department and Deputy Musice was a fifteen-year veteran of the Wilson County Sheriff's Department; both men truly enjoyed being a police officer, and they evidenced uncommon

dedication to their duties despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of their profession; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Musice and Sergeant Mundy were highly respected members of the greater Wilson County community, not only as law enforcement professionals who served and protected their fellow citizens, but also as neighbors and friends; and

WHEREAS, on that dreadful day of July 9, 2003, the accident scene could be viewed from the overpass at the Exit 226 interchange on Interstate Highway 40, and many in the community gathered there to gaze in disbelief at this tragedy; and

WHEREAS, even now, the overpass is a vantage point to view the accident scene and the many crosses that have been erected thereon to honor the memory of these fallen officers; and

WHEREAS, it is thus most appropriate that the General Assembly should name the Exit 226 interchange on Interstate Highway 40 to honor the bountiful lives of Sergeant Jerry Mundy of the Mount Juliet Police Department and Deputy John Musice of the Wilson County Sheriff's Department, two exceptional police officers and human beings who gave their lives in the line of duty; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Exit 226 (Mount Juliet Road / State Route 171) interchange on Interstate Highway 40 in Wilson County is hereby designated as the "Sergeant Jerry Mundy and Deputy John Musice Memorial Interchange" as a lasting tribute to these two exemplary public servants who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives while protecting their community and fellow citizens.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs at Exit 226 on Interstate Highway 40, both eastbound and westbound, and on Mount Juliet Road (State Route 171), both northbound and southbound, in Wilson County designating such interchange as the "Sergeant Jerry Mundy and Deputy John Musice Memorial Interchange". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, §54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.